

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LOME 00029 061637Z

44

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 EB-03 INR-05 CIAE-00 PRS-01

L-01 RSC-01 /040 W

----- 071283

P R 061234Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LOME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8714

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L L O M E 0029

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, TO

SUBJ: GRUMMAN CRASH

REF: (A) LOME 3003; (B) LOME 283082 (NOTAL)

1. ALL GRUMMAN REPS EXCEPT CHIEF PROJECT ENGINEER JOHN MORRISON DEPARTED LOME, ACCOMPANIED BY GOT CIVIL AVIATION DIRECTOR SALAMI, FOR SAVANNAH NOONTIME SATURDAY, JANUARY 4. MORRISON LEFT BEHIND AT GOT'S REQUEST. NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD INVESTIGATOR WILLIAM LAMB, ACCREDITED BY USG AS REP TO GOT FOR CRASH INVESTIGATION (REFTEL B) AND APPOINTED BY GOT TO ITS INVESTIGATIVE COMMISSION, HAD URGED GRUMMAN TO LEAVE COMPANY REP IN LOME AS ADVISER TO HIM.

2. FYI. WITHIN TWO HOURS OF GRUMMAN TEAM'S DEPARTURE, ARRANGEMENTS TO SEND PRESIDENT EYADEMA'S REPRESENTATIVE TO SAVANNAH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LOME 00029 061637Z

(REFTEL A) REMAINED INCOMPLETE. SALAMI, WHO BELIEVED HE WAS TO

GO, WOULD NOT BUDGE BECAUSE MINISTER MIVENDOR HAD NOT GIVEN AUTHORIZATION. GRUMMAN TEAM INTENT UPON LEAVING. TEAM WILLING TO DELAY DEPARTURE HOUR OR SO, BUT DID NOT SEEM BOTHERED BY PROSPECT OF LEAVING WITHOUT EYADEMA'S REPRESENTATIVE. WITH MIVENDOR UNEXPECTEDLY ABSENT FROM LOE FOR DAY, AMBASSADOR TELEPHONED PRESIDENT WHO IMMEDIATELY INSTRUCTED SALAMI TO BE ON GRUMMAN PLANE. TEAM WAS AIRBORNE LITTLE MORE THAN HOUR LATER. THIS EXERCISE WAS HARDLY AMONG IMPORTANT AFFAIRS OF STATE, BUT PROBABLY SPARED GRUMMAN AND EVEN EMBASSY PRESIDENT'S IRE. END FYI.

3. EYADEMA CLEARLY HAS SUPPRESSED PUBLICITY RE CRASH, WHICH TO DATE HAS BEEN AS REPORTED REFTEL A PLUS BRIEF MENTION IN "TOGO-PRESS" NEWS ROUNDUP OF YEAR 1974. TV FILMS OF WRECKAGE TAKEN NIGHT OF ACCIDENT AND AGAIN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, UNTIL CAMERAMAN STOPPED BY GENDARMERIE COMMANDANT, NEVER SHOWN TO PUBLIC. NO RPT NO PHOTOGRAPHS HAVE APPEARED PRESS OR ELSEWHERE IN PUBLIC. WRECKAGE MORE AWESOME THAN THAT OF PRESIDENT'S DC-3 AT SARAKAWA. YET THREE SURVIVORS, INCLUDING JUNIOR GOT OFFICIAL, WALKED AWAY BARELY INJURED. AT CURRENT HEIGHT OF MYTH-MAKING AROUND EYADEMA, COMPETITION FOR SPOTLIGHT IS UNLIKELY TO BE WELCOMED BY PRESIDENT.

RAWLS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS, INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LOME00029
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750005-0253
From: LOME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750176/aaaacoth.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 75 LOME 3003, 75 LOME 283082
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <14 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GRUMMAN CRASH
TAGS: EAIR, CDES, TO, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006